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Date: July 3, 2003

Docket No.: 0171-0987P

10/612043
U.S.P.T.O.
07/03/03

MS PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 3, 2003

Sir:

As authorized by the inventor(s), transmitted herewith for filing is a continuation-in-part application of Appl. No. 10/407,232 filed on April 7, 2003.

Inventor(s): TANNO, Fumio

For: FUEL CELL SEPARATOR AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

Enclosed are:

- A specification consisting of fourteen (14) pages
- One (1) sheet(s) of formal drawings
- Executed Declaration (Original Photocopy)
- Preliminary Amendment
- An assignment of the invention to NISSHINBO INDUSTRIES, INC.
- Certified copy of _____
- Priority of application No(s). 2002-104685 filed in JAPAN on April 8, 2002 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119. See attached copy of the Letter claiming priority filed in the prior application on April 7, 2003.

16179 U.S. PTO
07/03/03

Docket No. 0171-0987P

- An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449 form(s) are attached hereto for the Examiner's consideration.
- Applicant claims small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27
- Amend the specification by inserting before the first sentence

--This application is a continuation-in-part of copending Application No. 10/407,232 filed on April 7, 2003, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference and for which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120.--

- Amend the specification by inserting before the first sentence

--This application is a continuation-in-part of PCT International Application No. PCT/____ that has an international filing date of ____ which designated the United States, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference and for which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120.--

- An extension of time for _____ () month(s) until _____, has been submitted in parent Application No. 10/407,232 in order to establish copendency with the present application.

- Other: _____

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

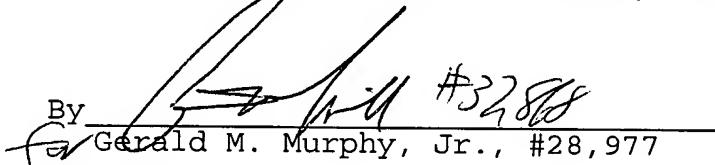
| | | LARGE ENTITY | | SMALL ENTITY | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| BASIC FEE | | \$750.00 | | \$375.00 | |
| | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE | FEE | RATE |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 3-20 = | 0 | X 18 = | \$0.00 | x 9 = \$0.00 |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS | 1-3 = | 0 | X 13 = | \$0.00 | x 42 = \$0.00 |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED | | | + \$280.00 | | + \$140.00 |
| | TOTAL | | \$750.00 | | \$0.00 |

- A check in the amount of \$790.00 to cover the filing fee and recording fee (if applicable) is enclosed.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. A triplicate copy of this transmittal form is enclosed.
- Please send correspondence to:
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP **or** Customer No. 002292
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
for Gerald M. Murphy, Jr., #28,977

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Attachment(s)

(Rev. 04/30/03)